Asian Development Bank's Loan for Importing Loco

630. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:
SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:
SHRI KAMAL MORARKA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 1900 million dollars given by the Asian development Bank for the import of three-phase electric loco in 1987 remains unutilised and the import are being reviewed;

(b) whether it is also a fact that, in the meantime the companies concerned have substantially raised the prices;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for delay in importing the three-phase electric locomotive;

(d) the amount of the commitment charges paid to the ADB for the non-utilisation of the loan so far; and

(e) the final decision, taken by Government with regard to imports of these locomotives?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Though the loan agreement was signed in December, 1987, the funds were programmed to be actually withdrawn from November, 1990 to January, 1993. Additional time is likely to be taken in the withdrawal of funds for 3 phase Electric Locos because of the following reasons:—

(i) As these are state-of-the art locomotives, the evaluation and selection takes time.

(ii) The necessity was considered by an Expert Group of Planning Commission when the evaluation of tenders were in advance stage of consideration.

(iii) The validity of offers expired on 31.3.1990.

(iv) ADB has suggested revised bids to be obtained.

(v) The variation in price would be known when revised bids are received and evaluated.

(d) Upto June, 1990, commitment charges, on unwithdrawn amount of loan, amounting to about US $ 1,299,208.4 have been adjusted against loan account.

(e) The issue is in close coordination with ADB with a view to finalising the procurement of locomotives early.

Non indication of prices by Amul

631. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that on Butter packs sold by Amul there is no price marked as required under the law;

(b) whether there are any other firms also selling milk and milk products which are not marking the sale price and if so, the names of such products and manufacturers and their distributors indicating corrective action taken / proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(c) whether the Central and State authorities would be advised to take suitable action in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL): (a) to (c) Under the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977 no declaration as to the sale price is required to be

made on certain category of milk and milk products. Uncanned packages of butter and cheese, liquid milk in bottle and liquid beverages containing milk as an ingredient in bottle belong to this category.

Atrocities on SCs

632. SHRI SURESH KALMADI Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued special instructions to State Governments to take severe action against those who continue to perpetrate atrocities on Scheduled Caste particularly in view of the recent happenings in Fatehpur and Agra (Uttar Pradesh) and the surrounding areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against the law enforcing authorities against whom allegations have been made that all the arrested persons were 'Jatavs' and that no FIRs were lodged by taking the side of the upper castes?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Instructions have been issued to the State Governments and Administrations of Union Territories from time to time, emphasising among other things, the following aspects:

(i) to take all measures as provided under the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 so that the Act is enforced effectively.

(ii) To specify exclusive special courts in each district and also to ensure that the Special Public Prosecutors appointed under the Act deal only with cases under the Act so that there is day-to-day trial and the persons commiting offences are convicted within the shortest possible time.

(iii) To take precautionery, preventive, punitive and rehabilitative measures in the light of the existing instructions on the subject.

Every case of reported atrocity that comes to the notice of the central Government are taken up with the concerned State Government and the State Governments are advised to make sure that cases are filed under the provisions of the Atrocities Act, appropriate relief is given to the victims of atrocities and persons affected are also rehabilitated.

The Prime Minister has also sent a detailed letter to the Chief Ministers / Governors of the States on 19th June, 1990, wherein he had emphasised that Government cannot allow the perpetrators of crimes on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to continue to break laws and practise inhuman violence and get away with it.

(c) The information is being collected.

Demonstration by handicapped persons outside the P.M.'s house

633. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that hundreds of visually handicapped under the banner of National Federation of the Blind held a demonstration outside the PM's house on July 16th, 1990 and submitted a memorandum to the Prime Minister listing their demands; and

(b) if so, what are the details of their demands and Government's reaction thereto?